

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/651,293

Examiner

Mohammad Ali

Applicant(s)

MATSUMOTO ET AL.

Art Unit

2167

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to September 17, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-68.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 30 June 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____

Mohammad Ali

Mohammad Ali
Primary Examiner
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DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is in response to the Amendment filed on September 27, 2004.
2. After a search and a thorough examination of the present application and in light of the prior art made of records, claims 1-68 are allowed.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Attorney Frank L. Cire (Reg. No. 42,419) on November 3, 2004.

Please Amend the claim 40 (filed on September 17, 2004) as:

A storage medium which stores a processing program for attaching, to a set of binary data, meta-data as information identifying the set of binary data, the processing program comprising:

meta-data accessing means for accessing meta-data to be used to identify a group of plural sets of binary data;

binary data loading means for loading plural sets of binary data to which the generated meta-data is to be attached from a first detachable storage medium or external device; and,

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meta-data attaching means for obtaining meta-data identifying a group of plural sets of binary data by using said meta-data accessing means, and then repeatedly attaching the same meta-data accessed by said meta-data accessing means to the group of plural sets of binary data loaded by said binary data loading means to create the group of plural sets of binary data, every set having the same meta-data, when the recording apparatus accesses plural sets of binary data by said binary data accessing means.

Reason for Allowance

4. The prior art made of records does not teach or fairly suggest the combination of elements, as recited in independent claims 1, 11, 21, 22, 31, 40 41,50, and 59. More specifically, the prior art of records fails to fairly teach the steps of wherein "meta-data attaching means for obtaining meta-data identifying a group of plural sets of binary data by using said meta-data accessing means, and then repeatedly attaching the same meta-data accessed by said meta-data accessing means to the group of plural sets of binary data accessed by said binary data accessing means to create the group of plural sets of binary data, every set having the same meta-data- when the recording apparatus accesses plural sets of binary data by said binary data accessing means"

The dependent claims, being definite, further limiting, and fully enabled by the specification and are also allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should

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preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled

"Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Contact Information

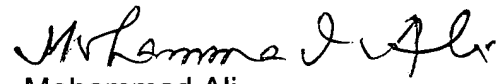
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mohammad Ali whose telephone number is (571) 272-4105 . The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 7:30am-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306 for any communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600.

MA

November 3, 2004


Mohammad Ali

Primary Patent Examiner

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